Fertilizer production

1398. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target fixed for production of fertilizers has been achieved by all the fertilizer units in the country during the first four months of the current year;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the subsidy provided to the fertilizer producing units during 2006-07 and the percentage increased in the subsidy amount during 2007-08 as compared to the previous year;

(d) whether Government are considering an alternative calculation method for providing more subsidy on fertilizers in country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Production of chemical fertilizers during April-July, 2007 has been of the order of 108.03 LMT as against production plan of 119.21 LMT submitted by the producing units for this period in the beginning of the year. Slight decline in production *vis-a-vis* the plan has been on account of temporary shutdown of plants of some of the producing units due to technical problems, shortage of gas liquidity problems faced by some of the companies and constraints in availability of inputs like phos. acid, etc.

(c) Details regarding subsidy provided on indigenous production of urea and concession to manufacturers on sale of indigenous decontrolled (P&K) fertilizers during 2006-07 and April-July, 2007 are indicated below:—

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Urea subsidy on indigenous production	Subsidy on sale of indigenous decontrolled (P&K) fertilizers
2006-07	12,650.37	6648.16
2007-08 (April-July)	7696.60	3126.59

(d) and (e) A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been set up to look into sustainable use of fertilizers and pertinent subsidy and pricing issues. The matter relating to alternative methods for providing subsidy on fertilizers is also under consideration of the GoM.

Money Back Guarantee on medicines

1399. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain pharma companies are offering "Money Back Guarantee" in case expensive drugs do not work on patients;

(b) if so, the number of companies in India which are offering/proposing to offer such guarantees;

(c) the role of Government in this regard; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association, Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance and Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India have informed that their member companies are not offering "Money Back Guarantee" in case expensive drugs do not work on patients. Besides this, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Department of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) have informed that as per the information available with them, no Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani Pharmaceuticals companies are giving such offers.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Adulteration of vegetables with hazardous materials

1400. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken cognizance of the media reports on the wide spread adulteration of the vegetables with material hazardous for human consumption despite presence of local authorities;

(b) if so, whether Government have ascertained the accountability of the concerned local authorities with the respective Governments;

(c) what are the provisions available to the Central Government to seek appropriate preventive steps from the respective State Government in this respect; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to ensure effective implementation of existing laws to prevent adulteration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Demand of ration

1401. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand of ration items made by Rajasthan for distribution through PDS to BPL during last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total supply thereof, made available to the State and whether it was according to norms; and